

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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1 NOVEMBER 1966
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1. South Vietnam

The four official political blocs that were formed in the constituent assembly on Monday are bound together principally by regional and religious factors.

Interestingly, the two blocs in which northerners predominate have already demonstrated an ability to outmaneuver and outvote the two in which southerners are most numerous. They have done this despite the fact that southerners make up the largest group on a strictly regional basis.

Thus far, the assembly has been remarkably free of the disruptive effects of Vietnamese regionalism. Any effort by the northern-led blocs to press their advantages too far and too fast, however, could quickly change this.

| 2. | West | Germany |
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3. West Africa

Guinean President Touré still refuses to accept US disclaimers of responsibility for Ghana's removal of Guineans from a Pan American aircraft at Accra. Touré insists that Pan American—and the US Government—should have protected the passengers.

Touré has assured Ambassador McIlvaine that he has issued strict orders against molesting Americans. Americans are still confined to their homes, however, and occasionally questioned by the authorities. Anti-American broadcasts and demonstrations are continuing.

4. Venezuela

Last Sunday's abortive revolt was apparently the work of right extremists. Some 40 arrests have been made but the full extent of the plot is not yet clear.

Our embassy feels that the political and economic climate has improved recently and that there would be little public support for a coup attempt now. The habits of Latin American military malcontents are hard to break, however.

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